

### REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the European patent document to Gelati.

The drawings and the claims are objected for formal reasons.

In connection with the Examiner's objection and rejections, applicant has submitted a copy of the drawing with the proposed correction and amended the claims in formal aspects. It is believed that the Examiner's grounds for the formal objections and rejections are therefore eliminated.

After carefully considering the Examiner's rejection of the claims over the art, applicant has canceled claims 3 and 5, amended claim 1 by introducing into it the features of claim 3, and added claim 7 which combines the features of the original claims 1, 3 and 5.

It is respectfully submitted claims 1 and 7 clearly and patentably distinguish the present invention from the prior art applied by the Examiner.

Claim 1 specifically defines that in the unit for quick connecting conductors to terminals has a single body which accommodates two mechanical devices each providing a quick connection of one of the conductors to each of the terminals in the single body and a disconnection of the one conductor from each terminal in the single body without interfering with the other device, and each of the devices has an operating lever including two identical and independent levers symmetrically located with respect to a contact plane and formed in a special way, and each operating in a special way which was defined in claim 3 and now in claim 1.

Turning now to the references and in particular to the patent to Gelati, it can be seen that this reference discloses a terminal block for electrical connection of conductor wires or cables, which includes a body with two mechanical devices in it, wherein each of the mechanical devices has one pressing lever as identified in the enclosed copy of the reference and colored in yellow color in the drawings. In contrast, in the applicant's invention in the two mechanical devices each operating lever includes two

identical and independent levers 9a, 9b which are identified in red color and in blue color correspondingly. The device disclosed in the patent to Gelati does not have a unit with two mechanical devices, wherein each of the mechanical devices includes an operating lever composed of two identical and independent levers as shown in the attached Figure 2, defined in claim 1, and clearly disclosed in the specification.

It is therefore believed to be clear that the new features of the present invention which are defined in the amended claim 1 are not disclosed in this reference and can not be derived from it as a matter of obviousness. The reference does not contain any hint or suggestion for such a construction, therefore it is respectfully requested to allow claim 1 as amended.

Claim 7 combines the features of the original claims 1, 3 and 5 and defines additional structural features of the levers, which in combination are not disclosed in the patent to Gelati and can not be derived from it as a matter of obviousness as well.

It is therefore believed that claim 7 should also be considered as patentably distinguishing over the art and should also be allowed.

Claim 6 defines additional features, which in combination with the amended claim 1 are not disclosed in the references and can not be derived from them as a matter of obviousness.

Therefore claim 6 should be considered as also patentably distinguishing over the art and should be allowed per se.

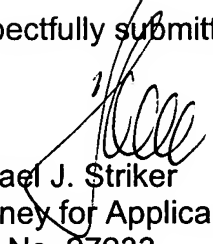
As for the dependent claims, these claims depend on claim 1, they share its presumably allowable features, and therefore it is respectfully submitted that they should be allowed.

Reconsideration and allowance of present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be

helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 27233



J. Alborovsky  
R. N. 18563

(12)

# EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: 87830076.3

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup>: H 01 R 4/48  
H 01 R 13/514

(22) Date of filing: 03.03.87

(30) Priority: 15.05.86 IT 2044386

(43) Date of publication of application:  
19.11.87 Bulletin 87/47

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
AT BE CH DE FR GB LI NL SE

(71) Applicant: ELETTO GIBI S.p.A.  
Via Tre Castelli, 6  
I-20145 Milano (IT)

(72) Inventor: Gelati, Bruno  
ELETTO GIBI S.p.A. Via Tre Castelli, 6  
20142 Milano (IT)

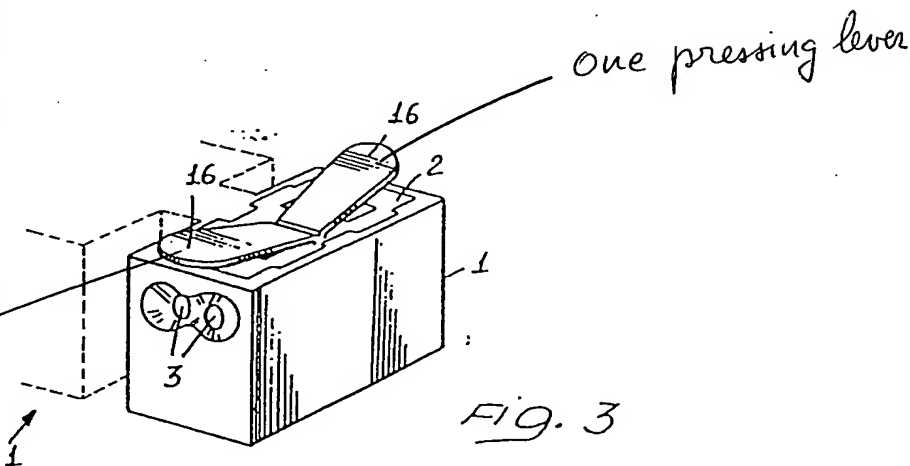
(74) Representative: Cicogna, Franco  
Ufficio Internazionale Brevetti Dott. Prof. Franco Cicogna  
Via Visconti di Modrone, 14/A  
I-20122 Milano (IT)

(64) An electrical connector.

(57) A terminal block for the electrical connection of conductor wires or cables has one or a plurality of adjacent and mutually connected box-like bodies (1) in the end walls of which are formed apertures for receiving the ends of wires to be connected.

Within these box-like bodies there is a three dimensional structure (6) shaped in trapezoidal form, made of elastic, electrically conductive material, having its shorter side defined by a reaction plate (10) projecting beyond the two inclined sides of the trapezoidal form itself, and the dimension of which, in plan, reproduced that of a plate defining the longer side.

Levers (16) having underlying teeth (17) may be provided to press the tongues (8) away from the reaction plate (10) to facilitate insertion of a wire, or a cover may be provided with holes to allow a tool to be introduced for this purpose.





0246199

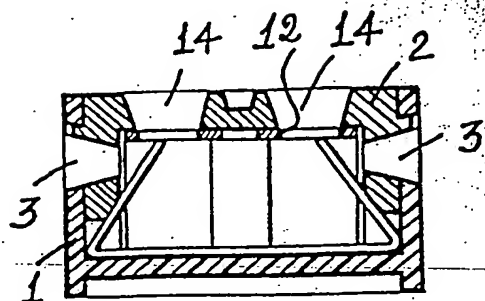


FIG. 4

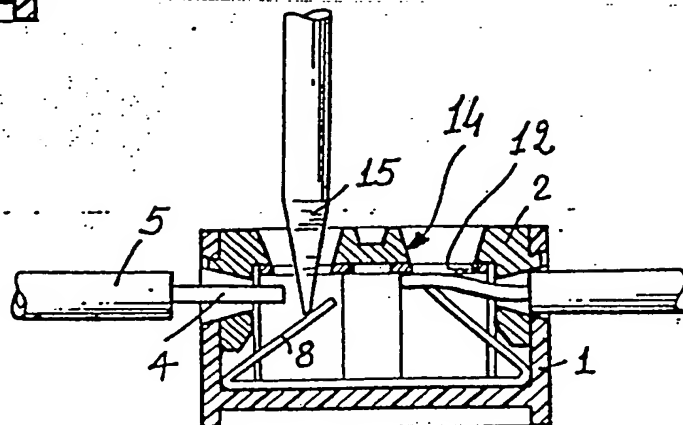


FIG. 5

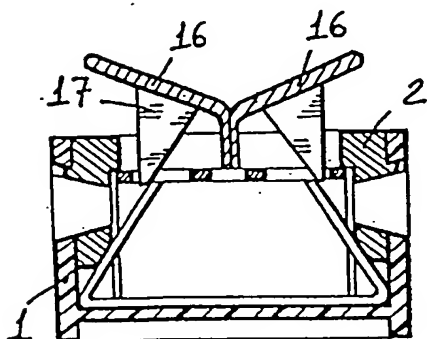


FIG. 6

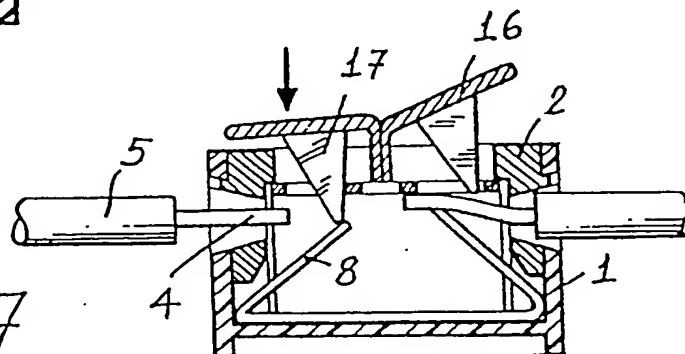
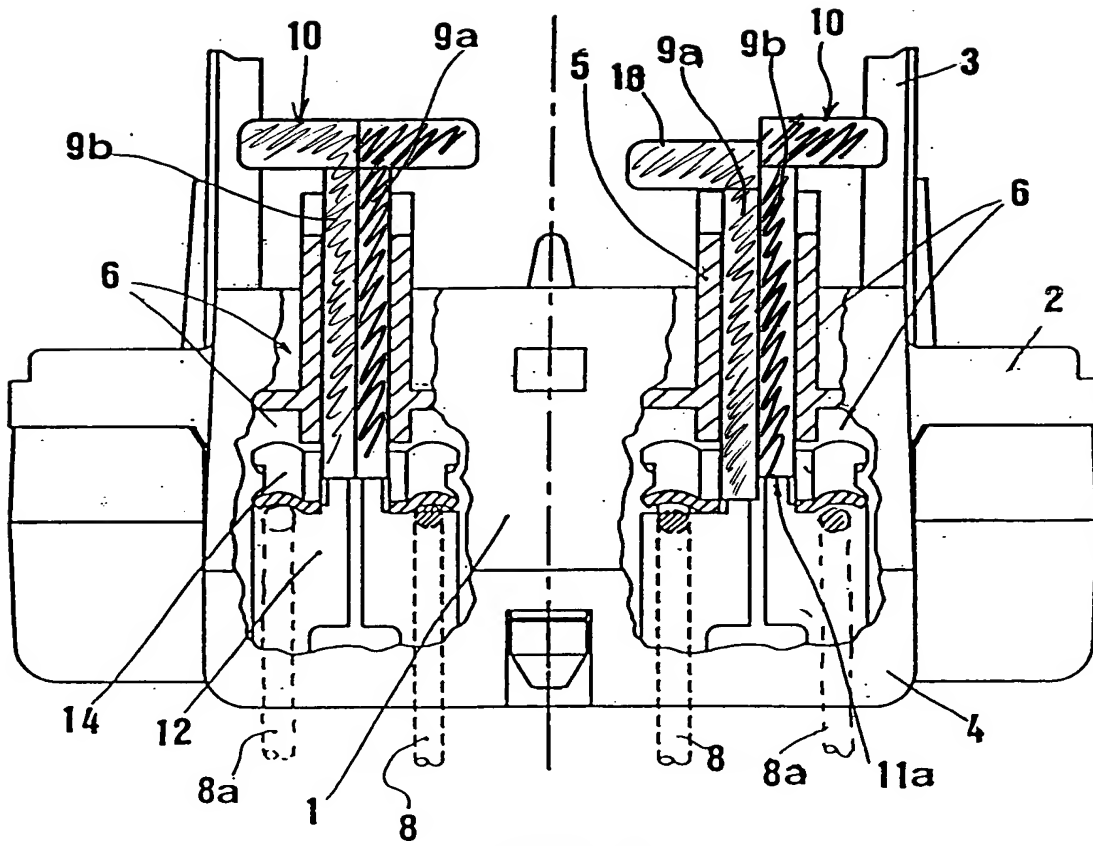


FIG. 7

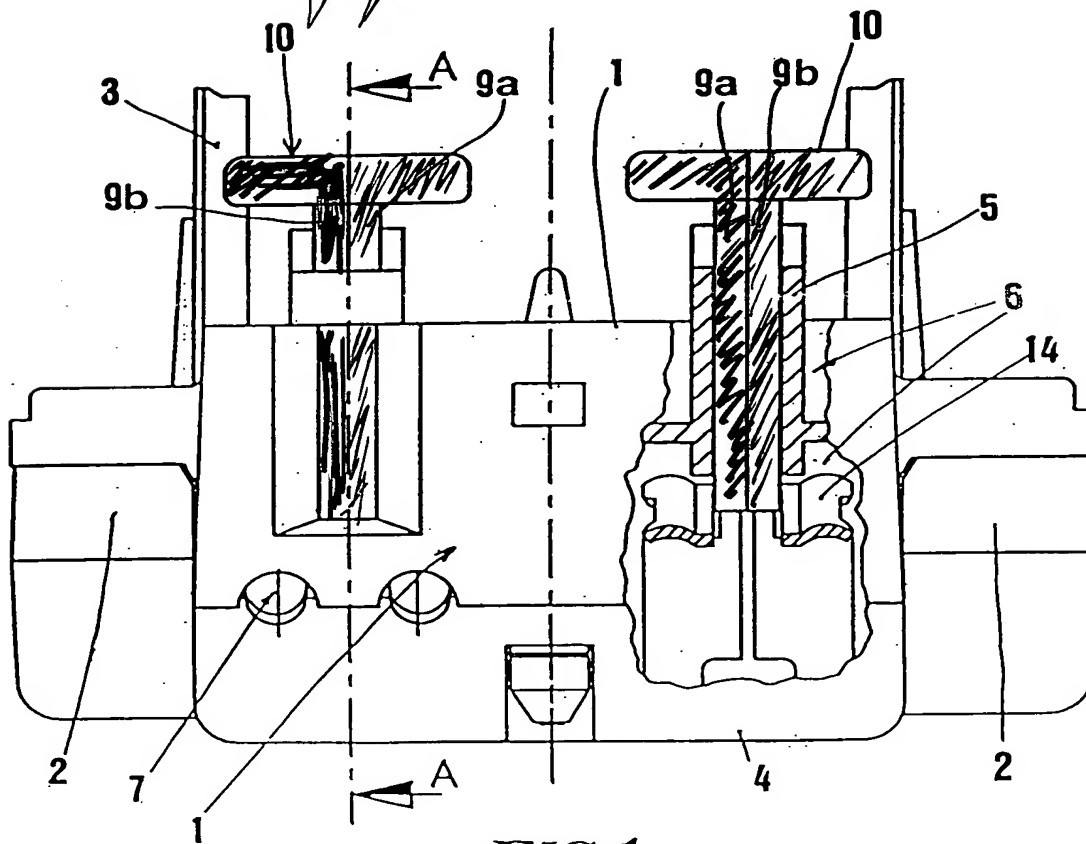


**FIG. 2**



- 8 -

*two pressing lever  
actuating with independence  
between both*



**FIG. 1**